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Report of the Economic and Social Council

Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007

Seventeenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007 (A/62/515). During its consideration of the report, the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarifications.

2. The Advisory Committee notes that the revised estimates relate to a series of Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions outlined in the report of the Secretary-General. As indicated therein, the expenditure requirements for the biennium 2006-2007 arising as a result of those resolutions and decisions are estimated at $238,300, which could be absorbed within the resources provided under the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007.

3. With regard to the biennium 2008-2009, the Secretary-General indicates that additional requirements are estimated at $14,205,700, of which an amount of $84,400 would be absorbed within the provisions contained in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. The balance of $14,121,300 would therefore be required under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, including $13,290,400 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and $830,900 under section 23, Human rights. According to the Secretary-General, the total amount of $14,121,300 would represent a charge against the contingency fund for

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the biennium 2008-2009 to be approved by the General Assembly at its sixty-second session. The Secretary-General further indicates that it is not possible at this stage to identify activities within sections 2 and 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 that could be deferred, curtailed or modified during that biennium to meet the additional requirements (A/62/515, para. 72). **The Advisory Committee has no objection to the approach proposed by the Secretary-General.**